

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 SAA-01 SES-02 SSM-03 ACDA-12 MCT-02 /097 W
-----095159 050938Z /13

R 041128Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9076
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PLO, LE, IS
SUBJECT: PALESTINIAN STATEMENTS ON KARMIL MARKET EXPLOSION

1. ON THE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 3, ACCORDING TO THE PALESTINE
NEWS AGENCY Wafa, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE "PALESTINE REVOLUTION"
ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

BEGIN TEXT: THE GENERAL COMMAND OF THE FORCES OF THE
PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION ANNOUNCES ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE
OPERATION EXECUTED BY ONE OF ITS SPECIAL GROUPS BELONGING TO
THE MARTYR HARB JAMOUM UNIT AT 1230 PM TODAY, 3/8, IN THE
KARMIL MARKET IN TEL AVIV. THE OPERATION WAS AIMED AT ENEMY
MILITARY SUPPLY VEHICLES AND AT SOLDIERS POSTED IN THE MARKET.
END TEXT.

2. LATER ON AUGUST 3, ACCORDING TO THE BEIRUT DAILY IKE, THE
POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (PFLP) ISSUED A
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STATEMENT CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INCIDENT.
THE PFLP STATED THAT "AN UNDERGROUND SQUAD ACTING INSIDE
OCCUPIED PALESTINE PLANTED THE BOMB..." ACCORDING TO THE
MIDDLE EAST REPORTER, CITING WIRE-SERVICE REPORTS, "THE
BOMB WHICH WENT OFF AT THE KARMIL OUTDOOR MARKET PLACE
WAS HOME-MADE."

3. Wafa also carried a communique of a "Palestinian Military Spokesman" on the details of the operation, which said:

A. BEGIN TEXT. IN CONSOLIDATION OF THE LINE OF REVOLUTIONARY CONFRONTATION TO ALL PLOTS AIMED AGAINST THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION AND PEOPLE; OUT OF OUR BELIEF IN THE CONTINUATION OF ARMED STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ZIONIST ENEMY AND IN ORDER TO INTENSIFY THE STRUGGLE OF OUR PEOPLE UNDER OCCUPATION; ONE OF OUR UNITS AT NOON TODAY, AUGUST 3, EXECUTED THE "MARTYR SAID HAMAMI" OPERATION IN THE HEART OF TEL AVIV. THE UNIT PLACED BOOBY-TRAPPED EXPLOSIVE CHARGES IN THE PARKING LOT ATTACHED TO THE ISRAELI ARMY'S SUPPLY CENTER IN THE KARMIL MARKET.

B. AT 1230 PM THE CHARGES EXPLODED CAUSING AN ENORMOUS BLAST THAT WAS HEARD ALL OVER THE SOUTHERN PART OF TEL AVIV. AMBULANCES AND RESCUE TEAMS WERE RUSHED TO THE MARKET TO EVACUATE THE DEAD AND WOUNDED WHILE MASSIVE FORCES OF POLICE, TROOPS AND FRONTIER GUARDS ENCIRCLED THE REGION AND DISRUPTED TRAFFIC.

C. THE OPERATION KILLED OR WOUNDED MORE THAN 50 PERSONS AND DAMAGED SEVERAL MILITARY VEHICLES AND A NUMBER OF SHOPS.
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D. THE ISRAELI POLICE SET UP A SPECIAL OPERATIONS ROOM IN THE MARKET AND BEGAN TO SEARCH THE WHOLE AREA, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR, YUSEF BORG AND OF THE TEL AVIV POLICE COMMANDER.

E. MEANWHILE, THE CITY OF TEL AVIV WAS REPORTED COMPLETELY PARALYZED AS OF 3:30 PM TODAY, AS ISRAELI POLICE ERECTED CHECKPOINTS AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE CITY AND ARRESTED PALESTINIAN CITIZENS. END TEXT.
PARKER

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